

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Jeff Essmann, on February 6, 2009 at
8:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jeff Essmann, Chairman (R)
Sen. Taylor Brown, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 292, 1/26/2009

Executive Action: None

Committee Business:

00:00:05 Chairman Essmann

00:02:23 Chairman Essmann left the hearing and Vice Chairman Brown assumed the duties of the chair.

HEARING ON SB 292

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:43 Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R), SD 23, opened the hearing on SB 292, Revise coal severance tax.

[EXHIBIT](#)(tas28a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:59 Bud Clinch, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council (MCC)

00:11:56 Leo Berry, representing Great Northern Properties (GNP)

00:14:14 Steve Wade, representing Carpenter Creek, LLC, Billings

00:15:12 William Duffield, representing Montana Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties (MAOGC)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:15:56 Matt Leow, representing Northern Plains Resource Council

Informational Testimony:

00:20:01 Lee Baerlocher, Department of Revenue (DOR)

00:20:25 Neil Harrington, Coal Regulatory Program, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:20:45 Sen. Story

00:21:11 Sen. Gebhardt

00:22:33 Sen. Erickson

00:23:14 Neil Harrington, DEQ

00:25:35 Sen. Erickson

00:26:15 Bud Clinch, MCC

00:31:18 Sen. Black

00:31:50 Bud Clinch

00:35:25 Sen. Black

00:35:35 Sen. Gebhardt

00:36:56 Sen. Kaufmann

00:37:10 Neil Harrington

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: (Con't)

00:38:48 Sen. Kaufmann
00:39:12 Lee Baerlocher, DOR
00:39:56 Sen. Erickson
00:40:50 Sen. Gebhardt
00:44:34 Sen. Hamlett
00:45:14 Bud Clinch
00:49:37 Sen. Brown
00:50:04 Sen. Gebhardt
00:50:47 Sen. Brown
00:51:19 Bud Clinch
00:51:52 Sen. Brown
00:52:28 Leo Berry, GNP
00:53:40 Sen. Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

00:55:14 Sen. Gebhardt

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:00 A.M.

Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tas28aad.pdf](#))